HESKETH-with-BECCONSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8th May 2024 at 7:00pm at Hesketh Bank Community Centre.

#### PRESENT

Councillors Paul Sergeant (Chairman), Kate Maughan, Steve Kirby, Joan Witter, John Hunter, Ian Eccles.

Graham Crompton, Parish Clerk

Two members of the general public were present.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/05/01 Carried** that Cllr Paul Sergeant is elected unopposed as Chairman of the Council.

**RESOLUTION No 2024/05/02 Carried** that the council receive and accept Cllr Sergeant’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office duly witnessed by the Parish Clerk.

**APOLOGIES**

 Cllr Tim Barnacle

**APPOINTMENTS**

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/05/03 Carried** that appointments were made as per Appendix 1

**MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION No 2024/05/04 Carried** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 15 April 2024 are confirmed as a true record.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**PRIOR YEAR CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman reported on the activities of the Council during the prior year – see Appendix 2

**FLOODING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Little further to report here. Parish Clerk attended part of the Channel Meeting where Rachel Crompton, LCC Principal Flood Risk Officer made a presentation on her role and responsibilities.

**MEMBERS REPORTS**

Cllr Steve Kirby highlighted the launch of the restored RNLI boat from the dockyard will take place on the 9th May 2024 with local tv and press coverage likely to feature.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

Cllr Kirby and the Parish Clerk took the opportunity to visit Dominos in April to remind them of their responsibilities regarding litter and request additional bins are made available to customers which could be empties into their own larger waste bins at the end of each shift. In the meantime, Cllr Eccles has shared correspondence from West Lancs Borough Council confirming larger bins will be installed in the adjacent area to accommodate the cardboard pizza boxes which have been blowing out of existing bins due to their size. Installation expected within the next few weeks.

Clerk updated the meeting on options available to the Council with regard to the recent request to install a memorial bench on the Henry Alty Way providing an explanation on the rules that were put in place for requests of this nature when the project was at inception. A draft letter was shared with the council and it was agreed that a vote on the prosed way forward would take place at the June meeting now the new HAW Delivery Group has been set up.

Following the formation of the new council, a notice to co-opt will go out over the next week.

Declarations Of Acceptance and Declarations Of Interest were completed and submitted to the clerk at the meeting for the forthcoming period

Meeting held with PCSO and Yates Playgrounds regarding anti-social behaviour on Glen Park Play Area. There is an area that allows for a ball to be kicked from one side of the park to the other without obstruction. Agreed that an addition to the play equipment portfolio would be added to provide such an obstacle – Parish Clerk to liaise with Yates to progress.

A resident from the new Persimmons development has complained of trespassing on his property from the public footpath on the Henry Alty Way. Parish Clerk to meet with the resident to consider possible remedies.

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/05/05 Carried** that the Clerk’s Report and actions are noted and ratified.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

**RESOLUTION No. 2024/05/06 Carried** that payments of Accounts made since the last meeting are ratified and the Invoices now presented on the Payments Schedule are approved and that the Clerk is authorised to complete the appropriate transactions.

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**The Council’s liquid assets on the 30 April 2024 were reported as:**

 **Receipts**

 **Hesketh Bank AFC additional rent £308.75**

 **Poor Marsh Allotments Rent £300.00**

 **CCLA Account Interest £729.04**

 **NatWest Bank Interest £13.72**

**Balances 30 April 2023**

 **Current Account £9230.83**

 **CCLA Deposit Account £164,000.00**

 **Total Liquid Funds £173,230.83**

**Adoption of Public Space & Play Area at Poppyfields.**

WLBC still await a response from Morris Home regarding the proposed commuted sum. In the meantime, Cllr Eccles shared a play equipment audit completed on behalf of Morris Homes highlighting a number of areas requiring remediation by Morris Homes – interestingly, one of the risks identified was an ingression of foliage and shrubbery onto one of the pieces of equipment. Cllr Eccles has shared the report with local residents.

**Recreation and Play Area Reports**

Report received for:-

Shore Road May 2024

Station Rd May 2024

Glen Park May 2024

**Items Received Since Agenda Publication**

**None**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm**

**Appendix 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|   | ***BARNACLE*** | ***HUNTER*** | ***KIRBY*** |  ***MAUGHAN*** | ***SERGEANT*** | ***WITTER*** | ***ECCLES*** |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Chairman |  |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vice Chairman |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc Appointee (1) |  |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental & PRoW Member (1) |  |   |  X  |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |  |
| Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee (1) |  |  |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newsletter Editor (1) |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Recreation & POS Committee (3) |  | **X** |  | **EO** | **EO** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Planning Committee (3) |  |  | **X** | **EO** | **EO** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Recreation Areas Inspection Members 3) |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| LHB / BKV Working Group (2) |  |  | **X** |  |  |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Payment Authorisation Members (2) |  |  |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Henry Alty Way Delivery Group (5) | **X** |  | **X** | **EO** | **EO** | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hesketh Bank Community Centre Representative (1) |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
| Northern Parishes Flooding Representatives (4) |  |  |  | **EO** | **EO** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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| **Notes:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **The Lancashire Playing Fields Assoc. Appointee** is a Nominee of the Council and can act as he/she thinks fit. Reports are expected to Council as appropriate but at least annually |
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| **The Environmental & PRoW Member** is specifically charged with bringing to the Council any matters |
| within the powers of the Council affecting the local environment and reporting requirements on Public |
| Rights of Way for consideration under the LCC delegated scheme. |  |  |  |  |  |
| **The Layfield Charity Appointed Trustee** is a Nominee of the Council and can act as they think fit. |
| The representative is expected to report back to the Council at least annually. |  |  |
| **The Newsletter Editor** is charged with gathering copy and producing print ready artwork. |
| **The Recreation & POS Committee is** appointed with full Executive and delegated authority to discharge |
| their responsibilities within budget and without reference to the full Council. |  |  |
| **The Planning Committee** is charged with determining Planning Matters that may arise between normal |
| Council Meetings. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **All Working Groups** should formulate costed propositions for presenting to Full Council for authority |
| to action. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2024**

The present Council has now completed its 3rd and final year in situ. This unusual period, which is normally 4 years, but due to the pandemic there was no election in 2020 so we served for 5 years.

Several members have decided not to stand for election this year. On behalf of the council I would to thank Norma Goodier, Ron Tyson, Louise Taylor and my most recent Vice Chairman Richard Plant for all their hard work and time they have given as members of the council over the many years of service between them.

We were also shocked by the news that David Maughan had sadly passed away just after Christmas and will be sorely missed.

We have one new member who put his name forward and I would like to welcome Ian Eccles to the council. This of course leaves us with 7 members and we can co-opt up to 4 more, although I am aware that one of the above who didn’t stand for election is having a change of mind and will be putting their name forward in due course.

The Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Council is now split into 2 wards, Becconsall and Hesketh Bank. Myself and Tim Barnacle represent the Becconsall Ward and Ian Eccles joins Joan Witter, Kate Maughan, Steve Kirkby & John Hunter to represent the Hesketh Bank Ward.

During the past 12 months The Flooding Committee has continued to push for a joint solution to the problems occurred in recent years. Since publishing the Hydrologists report in November 2023 the committee met with **the Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP (Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)** local Borough councillors and representatives from local Parish Councils, the Environment Agency, NFU and the local farming community at Guide Road to discuss the issues we are experiencing. The Northern Parishes Watercourse Review was presented to them and a copy was taken away by the Minister for consideration who is committed to working with us to achieve an effective resolution.

The Persimmon house building site either side of the centre of the village have now extended the Henry Alty Way path through its development. Ian Cropper and his group have done a wonderful job delivering this unique facility for the residents of Hesketh Bank and Tarleton.

As Chairman I thank the clerk Graham Crompton and all of the Council past and present for the hard work that they undertake for the whole community within the Parish of Hesketh-with-Becconsall.

